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ABSTRACT

A method is provided for modifying the rheology of a slurry of a mineral-containing solid material and water by adding a low molecular weight sulfonate-containing polymer to the slurry.

- 5 The polymer preferably comprises acrylamide, acrylic acid and acrylamidomethyl sulfonate. The inventive method has applications in the nickel ore, cobalt ore, precious metals ore, copper ore, taconite, mineral sands, coal and bauxite industries.

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